

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 SIL-01 /075 W

----- 022980

R 310505Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7136

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 4213

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KE, TZ, ZA, ELTN

SUBJECT: TANZANIA BANS KENATCO TRUCKS UNTIL BORDER OPENED

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 4190 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY: TANZANIAN-KENYAN ROAD/BORDER DISPUTE HAS BEEN RAISED ONE NOTCH BY TANZANIAN BAN ON USE OF ANY TANZANIAN ROADS BY ANY KENATCO TRUCKS UNTIL KENYA REOPENS BORDER. DECISION FOLLOWED NEWS THAT KENATCO WAS PREPARING USE SMALLER TRUCKS (AT HIGHER RATES) AND HAD BEGUN USE HEAVY TRUCKS BETWEEN DAR AND ZAMBIA. FONMIN OFFICIAL EXPRESSED BELIEF DISPUTE WAS AS MUCH INTERNAL KENYAN POLITICS AS INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS, BUT HOPEFULLY KENYA WOULD SOON SEE REASON.

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

2. TANZANIAN PRESS AND RADIO MORNING DECEMBER 30 ANNOUNCED IMMEDIATE, TOTAL BAN ON USE OF ANY TANZANIAN ROAD BY ANY TRUCK, OF WHATEVER WEIGHT, BELONGING KENATCO TRUCKING COMPANY UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE KENYAN GOVERNMENT REOPENS KENYA-TANZANIA BORDER. ANNOUNCEMENT NOTED THAT KENATCO TRUCKS HAD BEEN SEEN LOADING ZAMBIAN-BOUND CARGO IN DAR ES
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SALAAM DURING PAST FEW DAYS (AS, IT WILL BE RECALLED,

TANGOV HAD ADVISED KENATCO TO DO IN ORDER BYPASS DAMANGED
NORTHERN ROADS -- BUT THAT WAS BEFORE BORDER CLOSURE).

3. PRESS HAS REPORTED OVER WEEKEND THAT KENATCO HAS
UNDERTAKEN TO COMPLY WITH WEIGHT LIMITATIONS ON NORTHERN
TANZANIAN ROADS, IF ZAMBIA WILL AGREE TO RATE INCREASE
FROM PRESENT KWACHA 50.8 PER TON TO KWACHA 150, FOR
GENERAL CARGO, WITH SPECIAL RATE FOR CARGO TO MINES
TO RISE FROM KWACHA 60 TO KWACHA 110, AND SPECIAL RATES
FOR CARGO LIKE SULPHUR FROM KWACHA 49 TO KWACHA 77.82.
PRESS ALSO REPORTS THAT NO COPPER HAS REACHED MOMBASA FOR
TWO WEEKS, AND THAT PILEUP THERE OF CARGO AWAITING SHIPMENT
TO ZAMBIA HAS GOTTEN BEYOND CONTRACTUAL LIMIT OF 3,000 TONS,
WHILE 22,000 TONS OF SULPHUR ARE AWAITING SHIPMENT BY
KENATCO AT CHANGAMWE. REPORT SAYS THIS SULPHUR CANNOT GO
VIA MIKUMI RAIL/TRUCK ROUTE BECAUSE OF MULTIPLE TRANSSHIPMENT
PROBLEMS, AND THAT AS DAR ES SALAAM PORT CANNOT HANDLE SULPHUR
THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE BEIRA IN MOZAMBIQUE. MEANWHILE,
KENATCO REPORTEDLY TRUCKING ZAMBIAN COPPER TO DAR ES SALAAM,
WITH 51 TRUCKLOADS OFF-LOADED HERE BY HEAVY (28 - 35 TON)
TRUCKS BETWEEN DECEMBER 22-27.

END UNCLASSIFIED: BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

4. ON QUESTION OF EXPULSIONS, TANGOV CONTINUES
ASSERT THAT NO KENYANS WERE EVER EXPELLED THOUGH
SOME LEFT VOLUNTARILY TO AVOID JOINING UJAMAA VILLAGES.
TANGOV STATES NO OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIONS FROM KENYA
ON ALLEGED EXPULSIONS HAVE EVER BEEN RECEIVED BY IT.
(FYI - WE UNDERSTAND THERE WERE INCIDENTS INVOLVING
LUO TRIBESMEN CAUGHT IN "VILLAGIZATION" CAMPAIGN IN
MARA REGION NEAR LAKE VICTORIA LAST JANUARY, WHO LEFT,
BITTERLY, AFTER THEIR HUTS WERE DESTROYED AND THEY GIVEN
CHOICE OF UJAMAA OR INSTANT DEPARTURE. END FYI) NUTA
TRADE UNION ORGANIZATION ISSUED STATEMENT OVER WEEKEND
PROMISING TO PROTECT KENYAN AS WELL AS TANZANIAN WORKERS,
AND CALLING ON COUNTERPART COTU IN NAIROBI TO FURNISH
LISTS OF ALLEGED EXPELLEES.

5. OUTLINING BACKGROUND OF KENYAN DISPUTE TO EMBOFF,
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FONOFF OFFICIAL (MUGANDA) EXPRESSED VIEW THAT KENYATTA
PUSHING DISPUTE TO REGAIN PRESTIGE LOST IN PARLIAMENTARY
FIASCO FOLLOWING LAST GENERAL ELECTIONS, COUPLED WITH FURTHER
BLOW OF PRESENT EMBARRASSMENT OF HIS (KENYATTA'S) KENATCO
FIRM RESULTING FROM TANGOV'S WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS. AMONG
OTHER THINGS, MUGANDA THOUGHT, KENYATTA MIGHT BE
TAKING ANTI-TANZANIAN STAND TO WIN SUPPORT AMONG LUO
TRIBESMEN ANGRY AT TANZANIA'S "EXPULSIONS" OF LUO'S LAST

YEAR. HE OPINED, HOWEVER, THAT KENYA WOULD EVENTUALLY HAVE TO SEE REASON -- AND COULDN'T REALLY GO THROUGH WITH THREAT OF EXPELLING TANZANIANS BECAUSE MOST OF THOSE LIVING IN KENYA ARE EITHER WITH EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY OR ARE RICH BUSINESSMEN WITH TOO MUCH POLITICAL INFLUENCE TO BE PUSHED AROUND. ASKED ABOUT TRAVEL ACROSS BORDER BY TOURISTS OR FOREIGNERS, MUGANDA SAID TANZANIANS WOULD CERTAINLY NOT INTERFERE WITH SUCH TRAVELLERS IN EITHER DIRECTION (SINCE THEY DO NOT NORMALLY USE VEHICLES OVER 18.75 TONS), BUT HE COULD NOT SPEAK FOR KENYAN SIDE.

CARTER

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